

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 03626 151529Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 151505Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4843

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 3626

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY

SUBJECT: REACTION TO AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD'S CONSULTATION TRAVEL
TO WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 280063 (DTG 131759Z NOV 76)(NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED WITH GOC AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD'S TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATION. WE HAVE LEARNED, HOWEVER, THAT AT HIS REQUEST, BRITISH HICOM GORDON CALLED ON FONMIN DIRGEN PELAGHIAS MORNING NOV 15 TO DISCUSS CRAWFORD DEPARTURE AND GENERAL QUESTION OF PRINCIPLES. GORDON INFORMED US THAT HE NOTED ARCH-BISHOP MAKARIOS' NOV 7 AFP INTERVIEW AND ITS REFERENCE TO UNACCEPTABILITY OF KISSINGER "PLAN". HE ASKED PELAGHIAS WHETHER GOC OBJECTION WAS TO AUTHOR OF PRINCIPLES OR TO CONTENT. PELAGHIAS RESPONDED THAT OBJECTION IS TO AUTHOR. GOC DOES NOT MEAN AT THIS TIME TO PASS JUDGMENT ON CONTENTS OF PRINCIPLES AND DOES NOT NECESSARILY EITHER REJECT OR ACCEPT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES. GORDON ASKED WHETHER GOC WOULD CONSIDER PRINCIPLES IF THEY WERE PUT FORWARD NOW BY SOMEONE OTHER THAN US. PELAGHIAS SAID GOC WOULD, ALTHOUGH STRONG PREFERENCE IS FOR ANY PRESENTATION OF PRINCIPLES TO BE MADE AFTER END OF 1976. GORDON ASKED WHETHER GOC HAD INFORMED AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD OF THIS GOC POSITION BEFORE AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE. PELAGHIAS ASSURED GORDON THAT AMBASSADOR WAS AWARE. GORDON IS REPORTING
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 03626 151529Z

THIS TODAY, INFO HIS EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

2. COMMENT: IT IS NOT TRUE THAT AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD WAS INFORMED BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON NOVEMBER 14 THAT GOC WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER SUBSTANCE OF PRINCIPLES NOW IF PRESENTED BY SOME OTHER ENTITY THAN US. IT IS FAIR TO SAY THAT GOC OFFICIALS HAD MADE IT CLEAR TO AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD AND OTHER EMBOFFS THAT GOC DID OBJECT TO SECRETARY'S AUTHORSHIP OF PRINCIPLES. OUR ANALYSIS IS THAT GOC DID NOT WANT TO BE PRESENTED WITH SUBSTANCE OF PRINCIPLES AT THIS TIME AND WAS USING OBJECTION TO AUTHOR AS AN EXCUSE. DEPSITE PELAGHIAS DISCLAIMER, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THIS IS THE CASE.... A FINAL NOTE: GORDON SAID HE BELIEVES PELAGHIAS SPOKE WITH AUTHORITY BECAUSE LATTER HAD JUST HAD AN INTERVIEW TIH PRESIDENT MAKARIOS PRIOR TO GORDON CALL. END COMMENT.

3. AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE WAS BANNER HEADLINE STORY IN PRO-GOVERNMENT WEEKLY, DEMOCRATIKI, NOVEMBER 15. PAPER CLAIMED "SUDDEN DEPARTURE...IS CONNECTED WITH SOME DEVELOPMENT CONCERNING CYPRUS." AFTERNOON PRO-GOVERNMENT DAILY, APOYERMATINI HEADLINED: "CRAWFORD DEPARTURE IS MYSTERY" AND RELATED AMBASSADOR'S CONSULTATIONS TO "NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON CYPRUS AND THE ENTIRE AMERICAN POLICY WITH REGARD TO THE ISSUE." STORY QUOTED POLITICAL CIRCLES IN NICOSIA THAT "KISSINGER CHARACTERISTICALLY IS IN A RUSH TO RESUME THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES HE ENUNCIATED IN HIS UN SPEECH. IT APPEARS THAT CERTAIN COUNTRIES IN THE EEC AGREE WITH KISSINGER'S VIEWS."

4. IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES, EMBASSY ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE SAYING THAT AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD HAS BEEN CALLED TO WASHINGTON FOR BRIEF CONSULTATIONS.
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